

STATE CONTROLLER'S OFFICE
21st CENTURY PROJECT
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DATE: December 22, 2004

21st Century Project Letter #04-006

TO: All 21st Century Project Stakeholders

RE: **21st CENTURY PROJECT STATUS UPDATE**

Procurement (Software Vendor Selection)

The *21st Century Project* team has continued to move forward on the software procurement phase.

Significant efforts have been made to work closely with the software bidders on the State's program requirements. With over 600 business requirements alone, this effort has been very extensive. Confidential discussions were held with each bidder clarifying outstanding issues or questions. During the discussions bidders also provided presentations of their products.

Software bidders are also responsible for proposing the optimum technical architecture that will enable the business solutions. The proposed architecture will be hosted at the Teale Data Center. As a partner on the 21st Century Project, the Teale Data Center has participated in the confidential technology discussions. Teale will also assist the project team in the final evaluation of the technical solution.

On December 2, 2004 the final software proposals were due. Unfortunately, the proposals received were determined to be conditional and therefore deemed to contain material deviations. As such, the proposals cannot be constituted as finals and are treated as drafts. Meetings are scheduled with the software vendors to discuss the proposals and work through any outstanding issues. Final software proposals are now anticipated to have a revised due date of late January/early February 2005.

Project Oversight/Independent Verification and Validation Request For Proposal (PO/IV&V RFP).

Each department is required by the Department of Finance to provide independent oversight for all information technology projects. To fulfill that requirement, an RFP requesting project oversight/independent verification and validation was released on November 23, 2004. The successful vendor will be responsible for providing services in accordance with the Department of Finance, Information Technology Project Oversight Framework (http://www.dof.ca.gov/HTML/IT/SIMM/2004/8-04/SIMM_45_8-04.pdf).

The vendor's role will be to provide independent oversight of the activities taken by the state and selected system integrator in developing the new HRMS/Payroll System. Project oversight is defined as an independent review and analysis of the project activities to determine if the project is on track to be completed within the estimated schedule and cost, and will provide the functionality required by the sponsoring business entity. Project oversight identifies and quantifies any issues and risks affecting these project components. This independent appraisal will significantly contribute to successful system development and implementation.

Department Stakeholder Meetings

Updates on the status of the *21st Century Project* have been provided to departments in the form of departmental stakeholder meetings. The projects initial kickoff meeting was held in April 2004 with a second stakeholder meeting in August 2004.

The next department stakeholder meeting will be scheduled following the selection of the software vendor. The primary objective of the next meeting is to provide a demonstration of the selected software product.

As has been the case in the past, announcement emails will be distributed when dates have been secured and the enrollment form to request attendance has been made available on the 21st Century Web site.

Union Stakeholder Meetings

In addition to meetings with department stakeholders, sessions were also scheduled and held with bargaining unit representatives. The union meetings provided an opportunity to introduce the project to union representatives and to keep them informed of the project status.

Two sessions were offered to union representatives and the bargaining units were well represented. No specific concerns or issues were raised.

Additional meetings will be held in the future with union representatives. DPA has taken, and will continue to take an active role in working with the unions on impacts of the 21st Century Project.

If you have questions regarding this project status update letter, please contact 21stcentury@sco.ca.gov.

Don Scheppmann, Chief, Business Operations
California 21st Century Project

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